

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-441 are pending in the above-identified patent application.

Claims 1-88, 130-236, 272-375, and 417-441 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 89-92, 104, 105, 109, 110, 115, 118, 119, 122-125, 127, 128, 237-240, 242, 243, 246, 247, 250, 251, 254, 255, 259, 261, 263, 265-268, 270, 376-379, 381, 382, 386, 387, 391, 392, 396, 397, 402, 404-406, 410-412, 414, and 415 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsumpes U.S. Patent No. 6,442,241 (hereinafter "Tsumpes").

Claims 120, 121, 126, 129, 263, 264, 269, 271, 407, 408, 413, and 416 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Tsumpes in view of Motoyama et al. U.S. Publication No. 2003/0195982 A1 (hereinafter "Motoyama").

Applicants' Reply

Claims 89-92, 104, 105, 109, 110, 115, 118, 119, 122-125, 127, 128, 237-240, 242, 243, 246, 247, 250, 251, 254, 255, 259, 261, 263, 265-268, 270, 376-379, 381, 382,

386, 387, 391, 392, 396, 397, 402, 404-406, 410-412, 414, and 415 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsumpes.

Claims 120, 121, 126, 129, 263, 264, 269, 271, 407, 408, 413, and 416 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsumpes in view of Motoyama.

The Examiner's rejection are respectfully traversed.

Claims 89, 237, and 376 have been amended to more particularly described the invention. No new subject matter has been added and the amendments are fully supported by the specification.

Applicants' invention, as defined by independent claims 89, 237, and 376 as amended, is a system or a method for monitoring user premises. At least one sensor, at least one alarm output device, at least one user control interface, and a system controller connected to the at least one sensor, alarm output device, and user control interface are provided. At least one user control interface is located at the user premises and connects to an external data network such as the Internet for sending and/or receiving data. Such data may include security data (e.g.,

for reporting security status of the premises to a central monitoring station) and non-security data such as electronic mail messages and web pages that are not related to security matters (see specification paragraphs 72 and 73).

Tsumpes relates to an event notification system in which one or more sensors are placed at a monitored site. A controller, also located at the monitored site and connected to the one or more sensors, detects changes in status at the sensors and reports the changes to a remotely-located central monitoring station (e.g., through a telephone network) (see column 4, line 56 to column 5, line 3). The central monitoring station automatically provides an event-specific notification to one or more persons in response to being notified of the triggering event by the controller (see abstract). The central monitoring station is connected to the Internet and provides an interactive website that allows a user to customize various options associated with events to be monitored and notified (see column 5, lines 47-54).

The Examiner contends that Tsumpes discloses each and every feature of applicants' claims 89, 237, and 376. Applicants disagree and submit that Tsumpes at least fails to show or suggest at least one user control interface located at the user premises and connected to an external

data network for sending and/or receiving data, as defined by amended claims 89, 237, and 376.

The Examiner identifies central monitoring station 13 of Tsumpes, which is connected to the Internet via ISP 24 for sending and receiving data, with applicants' claimed user control interface (see Office Action page 3). Applicants submit that the central monitoring station 13 of Tsumpes is not a user control interface that is located at the user premises as defined by amended claims 89, 237, and 376. Rather, central monitoring station 13, as described above, is a remotely-located processing center that receives information on triggered events from a controller located at the monitored site through, for example, a telephone or wireless network (see column 5, lines 3-9). Nowhere in Tsumpes is it shown or suggested that a user control interface is provided at the user premises where the user control interface is connected to an external network for the purpose of sending and/or receiving data.

As described above, applicants' user control interface, located at the user premises, not only allows the user to control security functions of the system, but also allows the user to access the Internet to send and/or receive data other than security data. The non-security data may include e-mail messages and web pages that are not

related to security monitoring of the user premises. Thus, applicants' invention provides the user with the added benefit of electronic communications at the user premises that is beyond the capabilities of Tsumpes' system.

Accordingly, at least because Tsumpes fails to show or suggest a user control interface located at the user premises and connected to an external data network for sending and/or receiving data, claims 89, 237, and 326, as amended, are patentable over Tsumpes.

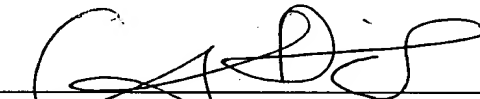
Motoyama is cited by the Examiner only for its alleged disclosure of a firewall. Without addressing whether or not Motoyama show a firewall, applicants respectfully submit that Motoyama does not show or suggest applicants' user control interface that is located at the user premises and connected to an external data network for sending and/or receiving data. Accordingly, claims 89, 237, and 376 are also allowable over the combination of Tsumpes and Motoyama.

Claims 90-129, 238-271, and 377-416 depend from claims 89, 237, and 326 and are therefore also patentable over Tsumpes and the combination of Tsumpes and Motoyama.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, applicants respectfully submit that applicants' claims 89-129, 237-271, and 376-416 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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